



Partners in Flight Implementation Committee  
Spring 2007 Meeting Minutes  
Sunday, March 18, and Monday, March 19, 2007  
McMenamins Edgefield Manor  
2126 SW Halsey St., Troutdale, Oregon

Sunday, March 18, 2007

Farm Bill discussion: what can we do at national levels? (Rich, Hahn, Mock)

- What can this committee do to have some influence; task in strategic plan.
- Jen Mock (AFWA) overview of her role; work with national NRCS to include wildlife practices. Works with programs above the line on acronym sheet (she discussed these today). Provided background on the Farm Bill, NRCS is the technical branch.
- Website for title II conservation, (handout) and farm bill 2002 fact sheets of all programs.
- NRCS good at doing soil and water practices but not so good at doing wildlife work. Many of the conservation community has to step up to get better benefits on the ground. NRCS has seen the value of these partnerships.
- NRCS structure, federal, state to local working groups, county office of county elected officials that feed up to state committees. A great deal of autonomy in this structure. Challenge how to determine priorities when funding and priority determinations are made at the county level. Ideally working thru the state level will offer opportunities for scoring of projects. Best to work thru state technical committees to raise and promote issues; all interests come together at this committee. WHIP starting to be linked to state action plans; all other programs linked to priorities of the State Conservationist. Working in the next farm bill to have linkages with bird plans and state action plans with farm bill programs. Striving for consistency of priorities. Some ideas and initiatives take years to be implemented, e.g., Bobwhite Buffers program (CP-33). May be more success working at the state level instead of only at the Federal level.
- The best way influence changes is to get involved at the state level. Anyone can be a part of a state technical committee.
- Fact Sheet identified key points in some programs on handout.
  - EQIP—60% funding must go to producers by law. But in some states a larger percentage is allocated by the state con.
- Discussion
- Need to work at tract, state and national levels at the same time. Institutionalize objectives at both levels, need to be parallel.
- Each state tech committee works differently in each state; when going, think about an invitation and reason for being there; state ag liaison/private lands person. FWS representation is usually the state Partners rep., which is another entry point. ES has not been traditionally involved.
- Work with partners reps at the national level for a consistent message; Dave Walker working to get better expertise at the national level; here identify how to present issues and seek clarification across state boundaries.

- How do national interests translate to the states? Example, CRP administered by FSA and CP-33 initiative. NRCS programs are usually a dollar allocation to states. Sage grouse EQIP and WHIP. Allocation of dollars or acres.
- Western states have background with regional and state plans if an initiative comes from above.
- Need for talking points at the national level and have people at state and regional level integrate using a consistent message.
- When presenting something to state committee, need to be aware that if additional workload and staff time is involved, planning funding for NRCS is limited. Trend in some states is to have partners to do some of this work (shared position). Package to provide benefits and not an additional work load.
- National MOU between AFWA, FWS, and NRCS; association encourages communication. Expectation that this will result in similar MOUs at regional/local levels. (distribution, pdf at afa site; [www.afa.org/farmbill.html](http://www.afa.org/farmbill.html)). At risk species defined in MOU, based on state action plan lists.
- Suggestion to provide input to state tech committee, document to identify key PIF priority birds by states, one page. Next step would be presentation of the bmps.
- Appropriate venue for dealing with county caps? A legal issue. 25% of the county crop land can be enrolled in CRP with two caveats. Proposed in Farm Bill 2007 to remove buffers and field borders, WRP from cap with addition of a third test acres enrolled to address an at risk species with communication with FWS, prevent listing or promote delisting.
- Integrate national and state level to habitat technical team concept trying to get this into the 2007 farm bill.
- The JV is the place for this to happen. Needs to occur at technical committee level of JV's, issue of structure, some have state level committees and others JV wide.
- Impact of biofuels on 2007 farm bill. Dedication to energy crops, 60 mile radius around processing plants. Monocultures at this time due to enzyme technology. Utilization of local feed stocks. Largest source at this time will be corn ethanol until technology advances to produce at a commercial scale with other species. Discussion is on going as to where to put this in the next farm bill, potentially use as a tool in a number of programs. Challenge will be to provide constructive feedback.
- Concluding remarks
- CRP may hear about new opportunities to provide state level initiatives for various projects.

#### Special EQIP initiatives - Montana example (Dan Casey)

- special EQIP project; series of initiatives, one all-bird in Bitterroot and Tobacco region. Native sage in Blackfoot region.
- Special EQIP in western Montana; projects funded focused on riparian and one ponderosa pine. Six projects in 2006.
- How get to where we are---spatial prioritization used to deliver NRCS programs; good relationship between state NRCS biologist and JV. Proposal included a cross walk with species and habitats, anticipated practices that apply to habitats

(gap, polygons of habitat overlay type of ownership). Mapping riparian stands and overlaying ownership; target lands under easement with local land trusts, prioritize lands. Local conservation design work, map stands in most need of work to set stage for future initiatives.

- Things that helped: Worked with all levels of state NRCS (direct working relationships); spatial aspect to JV plans; had a precedent with large EQIP projects in state; direct link to local people/land trusts; JV decided to set up a grant program years ago, these funds used as match and seed money for projects. Issue, did not have enough landowners lined up when allocation time occurred, need to have a local land agent/partners person role.

#### Henslow's Sparrow workshop summary (Tom Will)

- FWS Focal species, workshop to identify actions.
- Priority actions, focus on breeding and wintering range; grassland restoration in Midwest and longleaf pine savanna restoration/ maintenance in South. Work toward creating an eastern grassland working group.
- Handout Fact sheet, research by Jim Herkert. Hierarchical analysis, regional components influence trends, increasing trend from 1990–2005, bird appears to be recovering and seems to be tied to CRP.
- Suggestion that threat scores would increase if re-done.

#### Follow up actions;

- Suggestion to provide input/step down to state tech committee, document to identify key PIF priority birds by states, one page. Next step would be linkage to BMPs/habitats and needs of priority species.
  - First step state level list of priority species, 1-2 page. Start is Ken's list, edit tables; crosswalk with action plans and then to Farm Bill programs. Organize species by habitats, using NRCS terminology, argument that it is better to use general habitat types. Creating practices crosswalk, this is big, better to keep list structured to habitats or programs. Task for Science Committee. **ACTION ITEM.**
- FWS internal take strategic plan and see what move forward. MOU in development, get bird priorities into partners program. ACTION for FWS.
- Executive order
- MOU released this week. Entry point document a place for the step down document.

#### Best Management Practices/Decision Support Tools

- John Alexander presentation
- 3 tiered strategy developed from ORWACA meeting. Make sure science is good, needs to be packaged in a way that is easy for them to use, and need to have relationships with people in the field. Key link priority mgt issues and PIF objectives. Use focal species within the adaptive management framework and promote success stories. One success story is the Klamath Bird Observatory.
- White paper; peer reviewed, success stories.
- Discussion

- Need for wall to wall bird observatories; get data to make decisions.
- Forest ecology paper—use bird plans to monitor ecological effects. (Alexander, J.D., N.E. Seavy, & P.E. Hosten. 2007. Using conservation plans and bird monitoring to evaluate ecological effects of management: An example with fuels reduction activities in southwest Oregon. *Forest Ecology and Management* 238:375-383)
- Decision Support Tools
- Paper (handout); representation
- Management specific, link with conservation objectives. Presented example with healthy forest management act. Focal species effectiveness modeling.
- Discussion
- Hierarchy of decision support tools, complexity varies and who accomplishes and benefits from; scale and partnership based.
- Making visualizations easily available.
- Key element identify group and what they need to make decisions; best approach. Identify impediments and develop the tool that they need to move forward; this is the target.
- Strategy is to identify most critical junctures to be effective. Find partners to do the implementation, outreach effort, what do you need from us.
- Many different scales and levels of complexity in decision support tools. We have one set of three words that cover a wide breath of things. Key is a set of things that provide a visualization that assists with identifying what is happening out there. Starting from a different starting point for issues within an adaptive management cycle.
- Role of education to package this information, translate to audience.
- Impediments, more often than not these focus on land management, broad topic with a number of issues below, find opportunities within matrix and zero in, focus to help people move forward. Another approach would be to create a huge list of all issues impacting bird conservation; argue for selecting one, management and moving forward. Focus on the impediments and look at opportunities to focus efforts in order to make progress now.
- Identify the long list of things that need to be done and work on those things that we can. Need to focus in on the topics.
- Need resources on the ground to implement; regional efforts need to be connected to the ground, local scales. Need to have a conversation with JV's.
- Example, Sage Grouse, how do we get people to manage sagebrush where there are not grouse present.
- National scale, largest problem is how to assess relationship between changing or stable habitat conditions and bird populations. What factors are limiting bird populations, John's ppt used monitoring to influence habitat/populations. We can clarify our thinking between relationship of high priority birds, population estimates, monitoring, and management.
- **ACTION:** Limiting factors analysis, Science Committee, what is the problem with species xyz. Could focus on focal species and expand to watch list. Species list

with limiting factor (John's table). Desired habitat conditions; table for different landowners/habitat types. Start on watchlist species top tier.

- Could also focus on a habitat with suite of 5-6 within the top 100. Identify audience; use as a prototype to get feedback, is this helpful or not, based on this what do you need, done in ORWACA.
- FWS needs list that is initiative based. Majority of target audience are federal, state and private land managers. Need information on what to do with a bird.
- Tool for strategic thinking, scale, audience, etc. Use for a gap analysis of information needs. Fill in pieces of who take what to accomplish. NRCS fact sheets fit here.
- Scale start with BCRs. Habitat base that supports a suite of species (how NRCS looks at this). Organize watchlist species by habitat, 10 habitat types account for 90 of 100 birds. Birds in one habitat type and create a matrix. Information on breeding needs present in the plans, need to be mined. Part of these tools need to be based on species where have power, Least Bell's Vireo example, message managing for a condition. Hybrid approach, emphasis on PIF species and use other spp to monitor effect of management.
- Question still remains, at the national level what can we do to get these products done at the regional and local scales. Influence regional working groups. A great deal of information is out there to do this, needs to be boiled down.

#### Avian Flu Update (CJ Ralph)

- Ppt
- Web site: [www.klamathbird.org/lammna](http://www.klamathbird.org/lammna)
- Discussion
- Two efforts appear to be on parallel universes
- If want to collect samples contact CJ; if can afford it, have already put samples out for this spring. Issue of not enough funding to have adequate number of kits.
- Outreach document handed out.
- Connection between the two efforts, can some of the objectives of the APHIS effort be accomplished with the LaMMNA effort? Technique was not put forward to the interagency task force when they met, the suggested method was interpreted as the only method.
- Atlantic, Central and Pacific Flyway AI testing is a surveillance monitoring effort with a great deal of funding and resources being devoted to collecting samples. The LaMMNA effort focused on a different questions/objectives.
- Important to get a timeline of samples from a variety of species.
- Why have the epidemiologists etc not been more successful in getting funding? Time lag for politics to catch up with funding cycles.

#### Other Science Committee topics

- David Pashley; ABC with Audubon, green and watch list to be combined to identical lists, called the "watch" list. Completion possibly in a couple of months.
- Have a number of new sources of information on which to base population scores. For example, new analysis of CBC data, have new values for trends. A

significant set of changes has occurred to the watch list as a result of new information. 180 species on original lists, approximately 30 are being removed and 16-18 new species are being added in. Waiting for global scores from Mexico, once have line up global scores for the two counties, identify differences and select score going to use.

- For land birds, expect PIF, Audubon, and ABC lists will be identical to each other. Divergence expected in waterbird, shorebird and duck priorities is expected because used PIF analysis process.
- Link to FWS list of birds of conservation concern, no way lists can be identical as FWS list does not include endangered, hunted and others. Would be able to send a consistent message if lists were the same where possible.
- Utilization of watch list, commonly used in publications and forest plan revision process.
- Science committee reviewed changes and data using in recommending changes. If science committee does not agree with a change then the change will not be adopted.
- This a NGO list, that will correspond to the PIF watchlist.
- Issue of documentation of changes and ranking of species. Realize that this is an issue and will try to do a better job of documenting on the web site.

#### Tom Will

- Reviewed priority tasks of the Science committee
- continental assessment version 2
- Limiting factor analysis; similar to discussions above but also include movement between wintering and breeding grounds.
- BMPs by BCR
- Recommendations for achieving monitoring goals
- Population estimation refinement—see PIF website for information that supports population estimates. This needs to be reviewed. A handbook has been developed to be attached to the database. Looking to change scores on a regular basis. Will need to develop a mechanism to obtain feedback, ideally this would be web based.
- Objective setting guidance---past discussion on putting on a workshop about setting population and habitat objectives. Interest on the part of some JV's that would increase scope to all birds. To move this forward a request with needs articulated needs to come from the JV's, may have to be pulled from the JV Austin meeting.
  - **ACTION** Task came out of the JV meeting as a high priority, need to have a link between the JV Science coordinators and the IC; Bob Altman willing to pursue and move this forward.
  - **ACTION** Guy Foulks' new position, need to have him present at IC meeting.
  - Timing: can this workshop take place in 2008 or does it need to occur sooner?
- BCR pages on website; new page that includes physiographic area plans relevant to bcr and links to other landbird plans relevant to that area. These

pages also include a map of the bcr with physiographic area lines (keep colors but key at the bottom). These maps also show the physio features and does a good job of showing state boundaries relative to BCR boundaries. Any feedback to Tom.

- **ACTION** need to get plan information off from BLM server and onto USGS.
- CERW working group agreed upon objective of doubling population. CERW and GWWA joint meeting planned for November 2008 in Columbia.

Priority migrant ebird, objective 5 species of long distance migrants on migration and wintering ground, collect data. Focus on a small group of birds to facilitate participation and elicit information that was not initially collected on ebird. Species include Cerulean Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Canada Warbler, and Olive-sided Flycatcher. Very important to planning efforts of nearctic migrants.

- Website [www.ebird.org/primig/](http://www.ebird.org/primig/). PDF of flier available in both English and Spanish.
- Request, encourage people to explore and use this tool. Tour lists into a database; bottleneck is the input of these lists.

END DAY 1---6:00

Monday, March 19, 2007

2008 PIF Conference (Terry Rich)

- Most of this conference will consist of ½-day sessions on bird conservation topics. Each session will consist of a series of presentations and conclude with a 30- 60-minute discussion session. The objective of the discussion session is to identify specific actions for the bird conservation community to take over the next, 2, 5, and 10 years. These actions will be published and distributed immediately following the conference. This is in response to direction given by the PIF Council in Snowmass.
  - Program committee: Terry Rich, CJ Ralph, Chris Eberly, *et al.*
  - Proposing 8 rooms in conference center; key note speakers on Thurs am, Thurs-Sat concurrent sessions.
  - 40 topics, these have not been identified. Request for session proposals, draft presented and need to have all comments to Terry by 1 April. Discussion on how to solicit topics, and the need for this to be an all-bird conference. Education integrated throughout all sessions, may require that each session have one presentation on education. Theme of conference and IMBD are the same.
  - Some information on the PIF website.
- Adjunct Meetings
- Budget and Fund Raising
  - Review of funds in hand and expected.
  - More funding have lower registrations and assistance with foreign travel.
- Sponsorship letter near final.

Joint Ventures: How can we help them? Continues discussions from Snowmass and from the JV Coordinators meeting in Austin in December 2006.

- Charles Baxter, Dan Casey, and Bob Altman provided a brief overview of the Austin JV meeting. Focus of the meeting was to get JV to think critically and collectively on what their business model is. Relationships with other entities and organizations, role of science, etc. Landbirds have been integrated into many of the JV's, but not enough direct cross fertilization of workings of the initiative and science committees. Need to find opportunities to better communicate and continue to work towards better conservation design for these species.
- Some Science coordinators having trouble with setting objectives for land birds. Conversely science coordinators well versed in landbirds struggle with setting waterfowl and waterbird objectives. Outcome of their meetings, need for workshop to set population objectives.
- Discussion
- What does PIF continue to be now that the continental plan is out?
- NAWMP assessment may result in a redirection of attention and funding to wetlands.
- Science, how does PIF help with the linkage of people between initiative and science committee. Potential to have IC members as a liaison to specific JVs.
- Relationship between BCR/JV population estimates and continental pop objectives lacking, relationship between habitat and populations are hit or miss. Conservation Design subcommittee of NABCI, natural next step.
- Bird conservation is multi scale endeavor, some aspects that need to be done at national scale, example development of the plans, any and all activities that relate to refinement of cont level population objective refinement. PIF already played some of this role, 5-step process, workshop in St. Louis, promote standardized process and organize workshops to promote concepts. JV responsibility to translate national goals and objectives to more meaningful objectives at the ecoregional scale. JVs need physiographic working groups.
- Business ecosystem concept, truly competitive businesses are those that are concerned with health of partners and network systems along with their own companies are healthy. JVs should have a stake in PIF being a healthy and vibrant initiative. Roles and relationships are complex and should not be competitive. Need to articulate roles and responsibilities in terms of how the business ecosystem should work for the initiatives and JVs.
- JVs emerged as the primary implementation body.
- Jvs are partners made up of sovereign entities; JVs are not. Partnerships have responsibilities to do things, the sovereign entities implement.
- What keeps regional working groups going; western working group example, kept going tackle large issues, next potential issue is to tackle population objectives. Overview of NE, SE, and Midwest working groups.
- All regions have floundered at some point time, tradition of involvement have pulled groups thru lean conceptual times. NE rallied around issue of monitoring, purpose to work together. West nurtured monitoring and objective setting for some time, people have a reason to attend meetings. Monitoring is emerging to



energize PIF on a national basis. Still need to identify what is next, how do we set population objectives.

- Examples of how to model workshop, Cerulean Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, on how to think about setting regional population estimates based on national objectives. Reach out to broader group to identify goals and objectives of the workshop and how to produce a workshop with meaningful results. Work with science coordinators of JVs.
- **ACTION** Tom and Bob work together to outline a structure for feedback.
  - Joint effort between PIF, NABCI Conservation Design subcommittee and JV's and each represented on the steering committee for organization.
  - Potential people to help, FWS Patuxent (Marie Strassburger), Randy Dettmers, David Pashley and Deb Hahn representing NABCI Conservation Design, JV Science Coordinators (Bob).
  - Bob generate communication after meeting.
  - Timing stand alone after McAllen conference.
- Question of all bird or only PIF; need to define roles and responsibilities to answer this question, need order to complexity that has occurred.
  - PIF take lead and accommodate other initiatives needs. Use examples from all birds.
  - Biological planning for each bird group is different and nothing wrong with having meetings that are specific to tax groups and the issues germane to that taxonomic group.

Discussion of strategies for monitoring and conservation design proposals under the new NCN (National Conservation Need)

- David Pashley provided background and history of NCNs. Seven selected every year, approximately 15 submitted this year. NCN supported by Bird Conservation Committee crafted by Atlantic Coast JV and very similar to NCN submitted in the past. RFP out in April, proposals due in June, BCC members rank.
- Based upon success in NE monitoring project, West and SE regions are starting to consider similar projects, potential to expand to a national proposal instead of only duplicating what is occurring in NE. If NCN passes, western working group will discuss during April meeting and a writing team meeting is scheduled for April 26-27 in South Carolina. David outlined some of the themes and objectives for the proposal that are being discussed at this time.
- Randy Dettmers, provided brief points on the ACJV proposal for conservation design. Pilot demonstration projects within areas of the JV.
- FWS strategic plan, prompt FWS to think about business model they need to operate under, need to institutionalize integrated monitoring and conservation design.
- **FUTURE ACTION:** Business model session for AFWA.

Report from Bird Educators Conference and Followup

- Terry Rich reported on Austin conference.

- Trying to get bird related presentations into other conferences. Objective is to network further with educators and bird initiative people.
- Really need to have education ideas integrate and impact conservation. Need to go beyond only teaching bird identification and biology but expand to add conservation efforts to curriculum.
- Some conversation on having the group that meet in Austin also meet at McAllen. Also, potential for making the bird educators conference an annual event.
- PIF strategic plan, time to revisit tasks that focus on educators; are these still relevant? Potential to do this before the bird working group meeting.
- Develop set of key focus points and questions and have a series of presentations and insertions in the discussion in each of the concurrent sessions. How to package, market and utilize expertise of educators. Potential way to frame discussion section. **ACTION for McAllen.**

Presentation on new bird range mapping project (Vanessa Glynn and Doug Miller, Pennsylvania State University)

- Interactive Migratory Bird Maps
- Penn State University; build tools for practical situations and applications. Center for environmental informatics ([www.cei.psu.edu](http://www.cei.psu.edu); see projects).
- Ppt
- Developed an interactive tool with PIF breeding and wintering linkage maps. Number of goals for web mapping version 1, raise public awareness, reference for bird experts, logical and intuitive from user perspective, interactive tool allows user to choose winter or breeding ranges, ability of user to choose by bird species, location, or species from a location; zoom and pan; inter locator map; display bird migration routes.
- Timing of release, version 1, June 2007.
- Request of IC, what do people need in this tool? Feedback will come best once site is up and running.

Updates and brief discussion items

- International Working Group (from Carol Beidleman)
  - NAOC, VERACRUZ, MEXICO: We brought the PIF Meso group there, for participation in a PIF Meso symposium, PIF species assessment workshop, a waterbird workshop, an IMBD event, and other activities. Thanks to Marie/Terry for logistical help, and to all those who donated funds as well as those who donated equipment/books and hand-carried them down.
  - PIF MESO COUNTRY ACTIVITY: Planning for and attendance of the NAOC led to strengthening the PIF Meso network with increased communications, coordination, dissemination of information, and regular meetings throughout the region. The network continues to be viable and active in all the Central American countries with the exception of Belize, which still does not have a country coordinator.
  - NEXT PIF MESO MEETING: Planned for PIF International Conference in Texas in February 2008, with fundraising coordinated through Terry Rich. This was determined to be a priority meeting over the NOC in Venezuela, so few if any PIF Meso folks will be at the NOC. An international component needs to be integrated into all the sessions there.
  - PIF MESO SPECIES ASSESSMENT: As a follow-up to the PIF species assessment workshop at the NAOC, Jose Manuel Zolotoff submitted a Neotrop Act proposal to initiate a PIF species

assessment in Mesoamerica; we will know the results around May. The PIF species assessment handbook has been translated into Spanish, thanks to USFWS funds and the translation work of Mariamar Gutierrez, Assistant Editor and translator for La Tangara, with review by Eduardo Iñigo. This will be disseminated to the PIF Meso group and at the NOC.

- PIF WEBSITE: The outdated “What is PIF” section on the PIF Website has been revised in an effort spearheaded by Janet Ruth, helped by Terry/Ken, and this new version has also been translated into Spanish by Mariamar Gutierrez with funds from the Park Flight Migratory Bird Program, which she has been assisting with over the last couple months. We’re still working on getting all the PIF Meso contacts on the PIF website.
- LA TANGARA: USFWS funded the past year of La Tangara, with Jose Manuel Zolotoff as editor. The funding will run out with the next issue in a month or two, so funding is a critical issue. Jose Manuel submitted Neotrop proposals the last two years for La Tangara which were not successful. This is a really important vehicle for serving and connecting ornithologists throughout the hemisphere, and we need to help find support for its continuation.
- NEOTROPICAL COMPANION: Donations of copies of this book in Spanish were made through the Forest Service International Programs and Birders’ Exchange. We have gotten them to most of the PIF Meso country coordinators for distribution in their countries, but still need some from Terry for Panama and Honduras.
- SOCIETY FOR THE CONSERVATION AND STUDY OF CARIBBEAN BIRDS: The next meeting of the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds, the primary ornithological network in the Caribbean, is July 18-25, 2007, in Puerto Rico. You are encouraged to attend as this group meets only every two years and, for those for whom international travel is difficult, they usually meet elsewhere in the Caribbean, not in the U.S. (technically). For more details are they are posted, visit their website at <http://www.scscb.org/>.
- US-NABCI Update (Deb Hahn)
  - Handout NABCI Fact sheet
  - Brief about each sub committee
  - Monitoring subcommittee report out this week, report on website.
  - Conservation Design subcommittee interested in participating in the workshop discussed in the JV agenda item.
  - Institutional Support
  - Private lands
  - Next meeting proposed to be in Mexico, a joint meeting.
  - Subcommittees, membership open to those with expertise.
  - State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Support Program rfp; Doris Duke RFP for third year of funding, grants not exceed 150k, multistate projects.
- NABCI Federal Subcommittee/PIF Federal Committee (Marie Strassburger)
  - Follows up on Snowmass discussions and will continue this week. Efforts during last winter to try to make this group an effective working group. Officially sunset NABCI fed sub committee, fed agencies have been encouraged to participate in NABCI via other committees. PIF Federal Committee; do we want to retain, purpose, is the opportunity for fed agencies needed; this will be determined this week.
  - Discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of having a federal PIF committee.
- Updates on Cerulean Warbler and Golden-winged Warbler initiatives/workshops (Tom Will)
  - Ebird flyer
  - Cerulean meeting, 10 people from South America (Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia).

- Golden-winged Warbler: working to write grants to do international networking; also looking a scheduling regional workshops to discuss regional issues.
- Websites and list serves for both of these groups, Cerulean [www.srs.fs.usda.gov/egc/index.html](http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/egc/index.html); Golden-winged [web.utk.edu/~buehler/GWWA/](http://web.utk.edu/~buehler/GWWA/)
- Cerulean coffee available, ([www.abcbirds.org/cerw\\_coffee.htm](http://www.abcbirds.org/cerw_coffee.htm)), significant portion of cost goes back to farmers to keep coffee in shade, some to ProAves to protect habitat.
- Next Cerulean Summit being planned to occur in Colombia in Fall 2008.
- Tri-colored Blackbirds (Mike Green)
  - About to release conservation plan
- Rusty blackbird working group meeting scheduled for 12-13 April 2007, Stoneville MS, see [nationalzoo.si.edu/ConservationAndScience/MigratoryBirds/Research/Rusty\\_Blackbird/Workshop\\_07/default.cfm](http://nationalzoo.si.edu/ConservationAndScience/MigratoryBirds/Research/Rusty_Blackbird/Workshop_07/default.cfm) for more information.
- IMBD
  - Birds in a changing climate
  - See [www.birdday.org/wsb.htm](http://www.birdday.org/wsb.htm) for link to world series of birding team
- PIF World Series of Birding Team (Chris Eberly for Jon Bart)
  - Materials put together to advertise for sponsorship of a PIF team, the Redstarts.
  - Second Saturday in May, 24 hour birdathon, id as many species as can in New Jersey.
  - PIF team would be birding to fund CERW research conservation and education. Conservation go to CERW appeal. See [www.birdday.org/wsb.htm](http://www.birdday.org/wsb.htm).
  - Team members, Denis LePage, Canada; Carlos Bethancourt, Panama
  - Brochure need funding to print, total amount needed \$800. Also need mileage to fly team members to the site.
  - Intent to continue with this team each year; a different bird/issue is hoped to be sponsored each year. Intent to split funding between conservation, management and education each year.
- Neotropical Ornithological Congress (May 2007, Maturín, Venezuela)
  - Terry Rich: 3 workshops planned, species assessment, neotrop act, and better define winter ranges of priority species.
- TWS Symposium – September 2007 in Tucson (Terry Rich, Chris Eberly)
  - Half day scheduled; concept how does mgt birds lead to conservation of biodiversity. Title “Conservation of biodiversity through actions to benefit North America’s high priority landbirds.”
  - See [www.wildlife.org/conference/index.cfm](http://www.wildlife.org/conference/index.cfm) for more info.
- Support for PIF Species Assessment Database
  - Need funding.
- National Wild Turkey Federation (Laurel Moore)
  - PIF represented at a planning meeting NWTF hosted to kick off development of a Wild Turkey Plan. One day meeting on 31 January in Edgefield, SC.

The meeting focused on refining the mission and guiding principles of the plan. A table of contents has been developed that includes the mission and guiding principles, national strategies, habitat objectives and strategies for Canada, US and Mexico; scientific support; and implementation and evaluation.

- Entry point may be at the regional group level.
- Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act advisory group, (Dave Mehlman)
  - Update, members list, in the process of figuring out what they should be focused on. Should expenditures be focused on a region, a specific species; issue now is that the approach is scattered. Recommendations from PIF: valuable use of funds is supporting workshops, provide more guidance on how to write good proposals, increase in funds, continue to fund research and monitoring, funding education and outreach is also important.
- Bird monitoring and detect ability workshop, CO, Feb (David Klute)
  - 200 people in attendance, representing 33 states.
  - Product, recommended reading list, working to convert ppt to pdf.

Action items for PIF Council

ADJOURN 4:30

#### Next IC Meetings

Fall 2007: To be held in conjunction with next AFWA meeting, September 16-21, 2007, Louisville, Kentucky

Spring 2008: To be held in conjunction with 73<sup>rd</sup> North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, March 25-29, 2008, Phoenix, Arizona